

# GRACE TO YOU

*Proclaim, Build, and Serve*



## Easter Breakfast!

*Come one come all to the annual Easter Breakfast!!*  
We will serve a delicious breakfast from 8:30-9:45am in the gym. Bring the family and join in as we all celebrate the Risen Christ.

## 3/28 Palm/Passion Sunday

8 & 10am Worship Service



## 4/1 Maundy Thursday

7:30pm Worship (w/communion)

## 4/2 Good Friday

7:30pm Worship Service

## 4/4 Easter Sunday

8 & 10am Worship Service

8:30-9:45am Easter Breakfast (gym)

## Dates for the calendar:

Monday April 5, Office Closed

Saturday April 17, First Communion Instruction, 10:00-Noon

Sunday April 18, Confirmation students read reports in the 10am service. Also 11am Congregational meeting.

Friday April 23, Memorial Service for Don Jeschke, 11am with lunch to follow.

Sunday April 25, First Communion at 10am service

## Save the Date: Sunday April 18th at 11am - Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting after the 10am worship service. Pastor Likeness will address the congregation on his thoughts and the members' input from the Cottage Meetings. We will begin to explore our Ministry Mission, "What is God calling us to do?" New council members will be elected and we will begin working on a financial health vision for Grace. There will be activities for the little ones to keep them busy during the meeting. Please come and show your support and interest in the future of Grace.

## Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn

493 Forest Avenue at Pennsylvania  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Return Service Requested

West Conference - Metropolitan Chicago Synod - ELCA

Weeks of April 4 & 11, 2010  
Easter Sunday & Second Sunday of Easter  
1085410-07

Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
Permit #104

# Thank You One and All!

## Dear members of Grace Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the staff, the Board of Directors, and the 1000+ dedicated volunteers here at People's Resource Center (PRC), I want to thank you for your \$2,741.95 donation on 2/22/2010. (This was from the Centennial Mission Fund.) Your simple act of generosity represents a true gift of hope for the families we serve. Thank you again for supporting PRC's efforts to end hunger and poverty in DuPage County.

Sincerely,  
Mary Ellen Durbin, Executive Director

## Dear Grace Lutheran Congregation,

I wanted to send a letter on behalf of our whole family thanking everyone for the love and embracement of our new addition to our family. From all the meals received, to the knitted blanket, the baby calendar and pamphlets and to just the warm wishes it was all so greatly appreciated. The open arms policy of Grace was demonstrated so much these past few weeks. I can not wait to have Emerson be embraced by everyone here and grow within this community. We are so grateful to have Grace in our lives, and be a part of such an amazing bunch of individuals.

Thank you again,  
Jenn, Scott, TJ, Kennedy & Emerson Blazek

## Dear Pastor Rich,

We can not express how grateful we are for the beautiful baptism ceremony you performed for our son, Vince. This meaningful day was made even more special by all the personal touches given by you and the congregation. Everything from Vince's name stitched in the towel, the basket of books, the baptism keepsake, the tape of the ceremony...nothing went unnoticed and all was appreciated. Some family members commented on how comfortable they felt.

As we left armed with cookies and flowers, we felt as if Vince truly gained a whole new family at Grace. We are so blessed to have shared this day with such a caring community.

With sincere gratitude,  
Janet, Tony and Vince Terranova

## Thank You!

Thank you to Robert LoGalbo, David Burnett and Bob Stein for the fresh, clean look in our gym. The project on our birthday party wish list was to paint the radiators and Robert and David volunteered to do the job. Then it was noticed that the lower half of the walls from where the chairs had always been stacked up really could use a fresh coat of paint. Then we determined that it would be nice to patch the holes on the west wall which required that wall also be painted. Then David, who really got into using the roller, completely missed the stopping point and kept on rolling right into the old stage area! Well, it brightened up the wall so much it was decided that the whole area should also be painted. Thank you Robert, David and Bob for your continued work on a project that just kept growing, and also to Mike Pertle for his generous donation of paint for the job.

**Grace Events**

**Week of April 4**

Sun **EASTER SUNDAY**  
 8 & 10am Worship Service  
 8:30-9:45am Easter Breakfast (gym)  
 9:00am No SS, No Adult Ed,  
 9:00am Choir Reh

**Pastor Rich on vacation from April 5 to April 11**

Mon **OFFICE CLOSED**  
 5:30-8:30p Highland Dancers (gym)  
 7:00pm Bible Study

Tues 7:00pm Property meeting

Wed 7:15am Bible Study  
 4:45-5:15p Little Lights  
 5:30pm WOW dinner  
 6-7:30pm WOW activities  
 6-7:30pm Confirmation class

Thur 7:00pm VBS/Children's meeting

**Week of April 11**

Sun 8 & 10am Worship Service-Pastor Fred Reklau  
 9:00am SS, Adult Ed, Choir Reh

Mon 5:30-8:30p Highland Dancers (gym)  
 7:00pm Finance Meeting  
 7:00pm Bible Study

Wed 7:15am Bible Study  
 10-11:30am Grief Support (Great Room)  
 6-7:30pm Confirmation class

Thur 11:45am Prayers & Staff meeting

Sat 10-12 noon First Communion instruction class

Sun 8 & 10am Worship Service  
 10:00am 8th Grade Confirmation reports  
 9:00am SS, Adult Ed, Choir Reh  
 11:00am Congregational Meeting  
 2-6pm CNS Support Group game night (fellowship room)

**Vacation schedule for staff:**


Pastor Rich will be on vacation April 5-11.  
 (Pastor Fred Reklau will preside on April 11.)

Brenda Ciero will be on vacation April 1-4.

Cathy Milleville will be on vacation April 28 - May 7.

**Building Usage**

Sunday	5:00-6:00pm	SA Group (basement)
Monday	5:30-8:30pm	Highland Dancers (gym)
Wednesday	10:00-11:30am	
	April 14, 28	Grief Support (Great room)




**Current Prayer Requests**  
 Please keep these people in your prayers

Lois, cousin of Lenore Dean, for healing and strength; Janet Malo, sister-in-law to Jay & Edna for healing and a good diagnosis; Kay Maletich for healing and strength; Jim & Helen Sladek, thanksgiving & joy on their 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary.

Date	Attendance		Offering	
	8am	10am	Regular	Capt.Campgn
3/14	43	109	4147	8265
3/21	32	146	7276	

**Youth Group**  
**Plant and Bake Sale**



Are you wondering what to get the special women in your life for Mother's Day? Well look no further, our annual Plant and Bake Sale will take place on Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup> (Mother's Day).

Proceeds from this event will benefit the Jr. & Sr. high youth for their retreats and activities. Ginny Stein will once again provide the beautiful plants for this sale and we will be looking for donations of tasty baked goods from the congregation.

## 2009 Centennial Celebration Wrap Up!

We will not soon forget...

The **centennial logo, banners**, by Dee Anderson, a **special hymn** with lyrics for Grace Church by Pastor Robin Currie and the **calligraphy art** print based on Psalm 100 by Timothy Botts.

Our **visiting pastors**: Interim Pr. Allen Belanger, Bishop Wayne Miller, Pr. Hector Garfias-Toledo, Pr. Tom Strieter, Pr. Rod Broker, Pr. Robin Currie, Pr. Bill McKay, Pr. Steve Srock and Pr. John Roth.

The **Centennial Mission Fund**, which through donations and fundraisers such as Botts prints and t-shirt sales generated a total of \$5,400 toward the Peoples Resource Center of Wheaton and Lutheran Social Services of Illinois.

Congregation members logging their **volunteer hours** during the year. Although officially over 2,000 hours were logged, we know this is just the tip of the iceberg and the true number of volunteer hours could easily be 100 times that!

We embarked on "**100 Healthy Habits.**" Many reached the 100 goal and all of us were inspired to make healthy changes in our lifestyles.

We kicked off the anniversary year with a **Founders Day** special worship with Bishop Miller. A brunch and silent auction benefitting the Sunday school rooms also took place.

Other highlights included: concerts by the **Singing Men of Oak Brook** and Eric Hallein's "**Organ Blast;**" "**Tea Time for Memories,**" a special multigenerational event for ladies; a **reunion** of the youth group that went to Baja California (many of whom also were involved with the start up of the Food Pantry); a **golf outing** at White Pines Golf Club; a photo "**Pet Parade;**" and enjoyed welcoming crowds at our annual **Chili Supper.**

More than 100 members and friends marched in the Glen Ellyn **4<sup>th</sup> of July parade** and lead the Food Pantry shopping cart brigade. We also had a successful entry in the **Cardboard Boat Regatta!**

A **Cornerstone blessing and ribbon-cutting celebration** for our new and improved facility was held on Pentecost Sunday, along with confirmation of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. In October, we dedicated the new spaces and enjoyed "**Dancing Through the Decades,**" a fun-filled evening of music, dancing and food.

In February 2010, a huge **Birthday Party** to wrap up the year's festivities was held. In addition to a special worship service, lunch and fun games, the congregation and community rallied to collect **200 bags of groceries** for the Food Pantry, which recognized its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2009.

To store our memories, we printed a centennial edition of the **Grace Pictorial Directory**, created an **anniversary DVD** and the established the "**Reflection Center,**" an archive to preserve the history and memorabilia of Grace Lutheran Church.

We bid a fond farewell to interim pastor Allen Belanger in October, and a very warm and thankful **welcome to Pastor Richard Likeness** and his family in November 2009!

## PLEASE & THANK YOU

**THANK YOU** first – for the many members of Grace who have supported our Lenten worship services this year and who have come and shared hopes and dreams, concerns and ideas at our cottage meetings. Through those meetings I have met with over 110 members of Grace in a short period of time. I think that is a great success. You have helped me feel welcome as your pastor and you have helped me gain an understanding of how to lead at Grace at this time. For that, I THANK YOU!

Now the **PLEASE**. PLEASE come to our annual meeting on April 18. I've been serving as your pastor now for about 6 months. While I was with you in November at your last meeting, I now understand a little more comprehensively the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead of us as a church. I know that it is tempting to avoid congregational meetings at times – either because they seem boring, we feel our voice will not be (or has not been) heard, or our presence doesn't really matter – the council will decide what to do anyway.

But your presence DOES matter. It is important. We face some significant challenges as a congregation. Those challenges are not presented in worship – because that is not what worship should be about. After the cottage meetings I have reached a few conclusions about how to move forward generally. But the specifics of changes that we may be called to embrace over the coming months we will need to discern together. We need to pray about this TOGETHER. We need to hear your voice and your thoughts.

In general, following the cottage meetings, I am convinced that at Grace we need to work on vision. Vision for the mission that God is calling us into. (What do we believe God is calling us to do, what does God call us to be as a community?) And a vision for the financial health of the congregation. (What can we expect in offerings and how can we as a congregation learn to “live within our means”?)

Generally, that is what we will focus on in the coming months. Specifics we need to work on together. To risk a military metaphor – this is a time for “all hands on deck.” We can't continue spending more money than we receive. But we will need to discern ways to increase revenue and reduce expenses TOGETHER. Also – having heard many good ideas from you all about our ministry – it is clear that growth as a congregation is a high priority to our members. But thoughts and opinions about HOW we may try to grow varies widely within the congregation. So we need to talk together about this. If you can be there, please come to the meeting on April 18. I will do my best to share what I've learned at our cottage meetings. And we will move into the future with our eyes open – aware of both the challenges and the amazing opportunities that lie before us to share the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection with a world that yearns for some really good news.

Pastor Rich Likeness

### Looking for a new PADS Coordinator at Grace...

For many years Doris Nelson has been the PADS coordinator for Grace. She writes, "I have found it rewarding to work with the members of our church and our community while serving a need within our community. The time has come to give another member of Grace an opportunity to coordinate the PADS program for Grace. I would be happy to support the new coordinator as they learn the routine and the responsibility. I plan to continue on as a volunteer. We have had co-coordinators in the past so maybe a couple of friends could share."

The position involves fall and spring meetings with PADS coordinators from other churches, lining up the site volunteers and reminder calls during the season. Grace members work shifts on site the first Thursday of the month from October through April at First Presbyterian Church, Glen Ellyn.

There is a great deal of support from DuPage PADS to find site volunteers. If you are interested, please contact the church office.